(d) if not, whether Government propose to make those platforms also compatible to 24 coaches at the earliest, so that, passengers may not face any inconvenience?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Platform No. 10, 11 & 12 at New Delhi station are already compatible for 24 coaches trains. Works on seven platforms *i.e.* platform No. 3 to 9 have been planned to accommodate 24 coach trains.

(b) 24 pairs of trains are presently running with 24 coaches.

(c) and (d) Platform of most of such stations where 24 coach trains stops, are compatible to 24 coach. The works at remaining identified stations are planned to be completed in the current year.

Closing of railway crossing at Aishbagh

†3149. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a railway bridge near Aishbagh station in Lucknow and Aishbagh, Tilak Nagar and other localities are situated under it nearby;

(b) whether it is a fact that the railway crossing under the Aishbagh bridge has been closed due to which the local citizens are facing a lot of difficulties;

(c) whether his Ministry would consider to open this railway crossing built under the Aishbagh bridge in public interest; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The level crossing under the Aishbagh Road Over Bridge has been closed so far. The Road Over Bridge has already been constructed in lieu of the level crossing which is to be closed as per terms of agreement of cost sharing entered with the State Government.

(c) and (d) As per extant rules, level crossings having more than one lakh TVUs (Train Vehicle Units) are taken up for replacement by Road Over/Under Bridges on cost sharing basis. However, before the work is sponsored the State Government is required to furnish assurance

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in the form of undertaking that the level crossing in lieu of which the Road over bridge is being constructed will be closed on commissioning of the Road over bridge.

The Road Over Bridge at Aishbagh was constructed in lieu of the level crossing on cost sharing basis. On commissioning of the Road Over Bridge, the level crossing is to be closed as per conditions of agreement.

Measures to stop import of fertilizers

3150. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the level of imports of fertilizers is getting increased year by year due to shortage of fertilizers in the country;

(b) if so, the quantum of shortage and the quantum of fertilizers imported during the last five years;

(c) whether Government have worked out any permanent solution to weed out this shortage, considering the fact that India is primarily an agriculture based State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) The import of fertilizer is being done to bridge the gap between the demand and indigenous production of fertilizers. The production, imports and consumption of UREA, DAP and MOP in the last five years is as under:—

(Qty. in lakh MT)

Year	Production			Imports			Consumption		
	Urea	DAP	MOP	Urea	DAP	MOP	Urea	DAP	MOP
2001-02	191.73	50.94	Nil	2.20	9.33	28.34	199.7	61.81	19.93
2002-03	187.27	52.36	Nil	0.00	3.70	25.33	184.93	54.73	19.12
2003-04	192.00	47.30	Nil	0.00	7.34	25.80	197.67	56.24	18.41
2004-05	200.68	51.85	Nil	6.41	6.44	34.09	206.65	62.56	24.06
2005-06	200.97	46.9	Nil	20.57	24.38	45.76	222.04	68.31	25.88